

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 578
93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence, January 19, 2006, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

3256S.03C

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 578, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to protest activities near funeral services, with penalty provisions and an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 578, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 578.501, to read as follows:

578.501. 1. This section shall be known as "Spc. Edward Lee Myers' Law".

2. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in picketing or other protest activities in front of or about any church, cemetery, or funeral establishment, as defined by section 333.011, RSMo, within one hour prior to the commencement of any funeral, and until one hour following the cessation of any funeral. Each day on which a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense. Violation of this section is a class B misdemeanor, unless committed by a person who has previously pled guilty to or been found guilty of a violation of this section, in which case the violation is a class A misdemeanor.

3. For the purposes of this section, "funeral" means the ceremonies, processions and memorial services held in connection with the burial or cremation of the dead.

Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to protect the emotional well-being of persons paying respects to the deceased, section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare,

4 peace and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act within the
5 meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full force and
6 effect upon its passage and approval.

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Unofficial

Bill

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